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3 **Elucidating Fibroblast Growth Factor-induced kinome dynamics using**
4 **targeted mass spectrometry and dynamic modeling**
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26 **Summary**

27 Fibroblast growth factors (FGFs) are paracrine or endocrine signaling proteins that, activated by
28 their ligands, elicit a wide range of health and disease-related processes, such as cell proliferation
29 and the epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EMT). The detailed molecular pathway dynamics
30 that coordinate these responses have remained to be determined. To elucidate these, we
31 stimulated MCF-7 breast cancer cells with either FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, or FGF19.
32 Following activation of the receptor, we quantified the kinase activity dynamics of 44 kinases
33 using a targeted mass spectrometry assay. Our system-wide kinase activity data, supplemented
34 with (phospho)proteomics data, reveal ligand-dependent distinct pathway dynamics, elucidate
35 the involvement of not earlier reported kinases such as MARK, and revise some of the pathway
36 effects on biological outcomes. In addition, logic-based dynamic modeling of the kinome
37 dynamics further verifies the biological goodness-of-fit of the predicted models and reveals tight
38 regulation of the RAF kinase family.

39

40 **Keywords**

41 Phosphoproteomics; kinase; targeted mass spectrometry; kinase dynamics; fibroblast growth
42 factors; dynamic modeling; fibroblast growth factor receptor; breast cancer.

43 **Introduction**

44 Fibroblast growth factors (FGFs) and co-factors heparin/heparin-sulfate or beta-klotho induce
45 trans-autophosphorylation upon binding to fibroblast growth factor receptors (FGFRs), thereby
46 activating signaling pathways and regulating diverse biological processes (Ornitz & Itoh, 2022;
47 Sarabipour & Hristova, 2016; Su et al., 2014) (Kuro-o, 2019; Spivak-Kroizman et al., 1994).
48 There are 18 FGF ligands known so far that can activate the 7 alternatively spliced isoforms of 4
49 FGFR genes. Specific combinations of receptor and ligand result in the regulation of a plethora
50 of diverse cellular processes, including cell differentiation, cell proliferation, and epithelial-
51 mesenchymal transition (EMT) (Chen, 2005; Xie et al., 2020).

52 Besides the role of FGFs in health, during development and adult life, dysregulated FGF-FGFR
53 signaling is implicated in various types of cancer, including breast cancer (Francavilla &
54 O'Brien, 2022; Korc & Friesel, 2009; Presta et al., 2017; Y. Zhou et al., 2020). FGF2 is
55 commonly detected in the tumor microenvironment of breast cancer and can induce tumor
56 growth (Giulianelli et al., 2019; Sharpe et al., 2011). FGF3, FGF4, and FGF19 are located on the
57 11q13 amplicon, which is amplified in 15-20% of breast cancer patients and are all linked to
58 increased tumor progression (Karlsson et al., 2011, p. 201; W. Wang et al., 2015; C. Zhang et al.,
59 2020; Zhao et al., 2018). FGF10 can drive type III EMT in breast cancer, promoting invasiveness
60 (Abolhassani et al., 2014). These unfavorable effects in breast cancer patients result from diverse
61 and complex FGF-driven cellular signaling (Presta et al., 2017).

62 The fine-tuned coordination of the diverse FGF-driven cellular processes is thought to be
63 regulated by the MAPK/ERK pathway, the PI3K pathway, the PLC γ pathway, and the JAK-
64 STAT pathway (Dailey et al., 2005; Ferguson et al., 2021) (Ornitz et al., 1996; Touat et al.,
65 2015; X. Zhang et al., 2006). For example, the MAPK/ERK pathway is thought to drive cell
66 proliferation, and the PI3K pathway is believed to regulate EMT (Kato & Nakagama, 2014;
67 Tomita et al., 2021). These pathways are highly dependent on multiple kinases that relay signals
68 by adding phosphate groups to proteins or other molecules. Kinase activity is often determined
69 by phosphorylation in the kinase activation loop, which can be measured and quantified using a
70 targeted mass spectrometry based kinome assay (Nolen et al., 2004; Schmidlin et al., 2019).
71 Even though the main pathways involved in FGF signaling are elucidated, molecular mechanistic

72 insights into the regulations of the differential cellular processes are still largely lacking (Gurzu
73 et al., 2019; Ramos et al., 2010).

74 FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, and FGF19 are all associated with breast cancer, however, insights
75 into the differential signaling of these FGFs are lacking. It is unclear what pathways and kinases
76 are regulated by the different FGFs. Also, no mechanistic signaling comparisons are investigated
77 to elucidate the importance of each of the FGFs and their possible roles in breast cancer. Gaining
78 these biological insights is key to understanding the implications of FGF signaling in breast
79 cancer.

80 Here, we aim to broaden our understanding of FGF signaling by quantifying temporal kinase
81 activation dynamics using a selected reaction monitoring assay (SRM) with broad coverage of
82 kinases that are involved in the FGFR signaling pathway. To verify the biological results from
83 the longitudinal SRM data, we created a dynamic mechanistic model of the signaling pathway
84 using logic-based ordinary differential equations. To explain discrepancies in our developed
85 model, we used modeling-guided analysis of shotgun phosphoproteomics data. Our approach
86 successfully mapped FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, and FGF19 signaling in breast cancer cell
87 lines and allowed us to add hitherto unknown involved kinases and signaling dynamics to FGF
88 stimulations.

89 **Methods**

90 **Cell culture**

91 MCF-7 (ATCC), BT-474 (ATCC), and EFM-192a (DSMZ) cells were grown in Dulbecco's
92 modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% FBS (Sigma) and 2mM glutamine.
93 Cells were regularly tested for mycoplasma. All cells were cultured in a humidified incubator
94 equilibrated with 5% CO₂ at 37 °C. Experiments were performed after the 5th passage and before
95 the 20th passage to limit cell heterogeneity between experiments.

96 **Sample preparation for mass spectrometry**

97 For mass spectrometry experiments, ~5 million cells were plated in triplicates in 10cm plates in
98 regular medium. After 24 hours, the medium was changed to serum-starved medium
99 supplemented with 5 µg/mL heparin (Thermo Scientific). After 24 hours, cells were incubated
100 with 50 ng/mL of either FGF2 (Peprotech), FGF3 (KyvoBio), FGF4 (Peprotech), FGF10

101 (Peprotech), or FGF19 (Peprotech). Cells were washed three times with ice-cold PBS, scraped,
102 and snap-frozen until further sample preparation.

103 **Cell growth assay**

104 Triplicate groups of ~0.1 million cells were plated in 12 well-plates again first in regular medium
105 and subsequently in medium with either 5 µg/mL heparin or without. After 24 hours, one of the 5
106 different FGF ligands was added, and the plate was incubated in an IncuCyte ZOOM™ at 37
107 °C/5% CO₂ until the end of the experiment. Pictures of each well were taken every hour, of
108 which the percentage plate coverage was determined. Significance between groups was
109 determined using an ANOVA and Tukey's range test ($p < 0.05$).

110 **Scratch wound healing assay**

111 In 12 well plates, triplicates of 3e5 cells were plated in a regular medium, after 24 hours, the
112 medium was changed to starved medium supplemented with 5 µg/mL heparin. Subsequently, the
113 cells were verified to be confluent when the scratch assay was performed (Liang et al., 2007).
114 The scratch assay was analyzed as described before (Suarez-Arnedo et al., 2020). In short, using
115 the ImageJ/Fiji script "Wound Healing Size Tool", the percentage of wound closure was
116 calculated between $t = 24\text{h}$ and $t = 0$ (Schindelin et al., 2012). Significance between groups was
117 determined using an ANOVA and Tukey's range test (biological triplicates, $p < 0.05$).

118 **Spectral library generation**

119 Spectral libraries were used to determine peptide fragmentation characteristics and their indexed
120 retention time, which are key for identifying peptides in the tier 2 SRM assay. The custom mix
121 of heavy labeled peptides (JPT or ThermoFisher Scientific) was mixed with iRT peptides
122 (Biognosys) and analyzed using an Orbitrap Q-Exactive HF (ThermoFisher Scientific). An
123 unscheduled parallel reaction monitoring (PRM) method scanned for the +2 and +3 charged
124 peptides, including all possible methionine oxidations. Peptides were separated using a 2 h
125 gradient a 120k resolution was used for the PRM assay, resulting in a minimum of 5 spectra per
126 peptide. Raw files were analyzed using MaxQuant (version 1.6.10.43), carbamidomethyl
127 cysteine as fixed modification, and the variable modifications serine/threonine/tyrosine
128 phosphorylation, methionine oxidation, and isotope labels. The search results were filtered using
129 a 1% FDR cut-off, and subsequently, using Skyline (version 20.1.1.83), pseudo-MS2 spectra
130 were generated, which were used as the peptide library.

131 **SRM assay development**

132 The SRM assay was developed using previously described methods (Schmidlin et al., 2019). The
133 assay was developed on a TSQ Altis (ThermoFisher Scientific). In brief, the 10 most intense
134 fragment ions from the library were used as initial transitions. These transitions were used to
135 optimize multiple parameters, such as retention time and collision energy. The collision energy
136 was optimized per transition using Skyline, with the TSQ Vantage CE formula as starting point
137 ($CE = 0.03 \text{ m/z} + 2.905$ for doubly charged precursors and $CE = 0.038 \text{ m/z} + 2.281$ for precursor
138 charges of three and higher) and optimized using steps of 1 voltage.

139 **Protein digestion selected reaction monitoring assay**

140 Snap-frozen protein pellets were lysed, reduced, and alkylated in lysis buffer (1% sodium
141 deoxycholate (SDC), 10 mM tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride (TCEP)), 40 mM
142 chloroacetamide (CAA), and 100 mM TRIS, pH 8.0 supplemented with phosphatase inhibitor
143 (PhosSTOP, Roche) and protease inhibitor (cOmplete mini EDTA-free, Roche). Cells were
144 heated at 95C and sonicated with a Bioruptor Plus (Diagenode) for 15 cycles of 30 s. Bradford
145 protein assay (Bio-Rad Protein Assay Kit I, Bio-Rad) was used to determine the protein amount,
146 after which samples were split into 200 μ g aliquots. Proteins were digested overnight at 37C with
147 trypsin (1:50 μ g/ μ g) (Sigma-Aldrich) and lysyl endopeptidase (1:75 μ g/ μ g) (Wako). Heavy
148 labeled phosphopeptides were added to the samples. The SDC was precipitated with 2% formic
149 acid (FA) twice, after which samples were desalted and enriched in an automated fashion using
150 the AssayMap Bravo platform (Agilent Technologies) with corresponding AssayMap C18
151 (Agilent Technologies) reverse-phase column as previously described (Post et al., 2017).

152 **SRM LC-MS/MS Setup**

153 Samples were analyzed on a TSQ Altis (Thermo Scientific) coupled to an UltiMate 3000
154 (Thermo Scientific), and an easy spray analytical column (ES802A, 25 cm, 75 μ m ID PepMap
155 RLSC, C18, 100 Å , 2 μ m particle size column (Thermo Scientific)). First, samples were
156 reconstituted in 2% LC-MS grade formic acid. Samples were loaded on a trap column
157 (AcclaimTM PepMapTM 100 C18 HPLC Column 0.3x5mm with 5 μ m particles (Thermo
158 Scientific)) with 2.2% Buffer A (0.1% FA) for 3 minutes and subsequently separated using 0-
159 32% buffer B (99.9%ACN, 0.1%FA) in 35 min at 300nL/min and followed by a 20 min column
160 wash with 80% buffer B at 300nL/min, and 10-minute column equilibration at 2.2% B. The TSQ

161 Altis spray voltage was set at 1.9 kV and fragmented at 1.5 mTorr in the second quadrupole. The
162 first quadrupole was set at 0.7 da FWHM, and the third quadrupole at 1.2 da FWHM. All
163 transitions were measured with optimized collision energy without scheduling and a cycle time
164 of 1.5 sec.

165 **SRM data assessment**

166 All experiments were analyzed using Skyline-Daily (version 20.2.1.404) (Pino et al., 2020). The
167 quality of the peptides was assessed mainly on the signal similarity between the heavy and the
168 light peptides. The most important aspects were perfect co-elution, peak shape, and relative
169 contributions of each transition between the heavy and the light peptide. A $\text{rdotp} > 0.95$ was
170 maintained to indicate the similarity between the heavy and the light peptide. In-house R scripts
171 were used for further data visualization and analysis.

172 **Logic-based dynamic modeling**

173 Logic-based dynamic modeling was performed as described earlier (Tognetti et al., 2021). In
174 short, first, a prior knowledge network (PKN) was generated using Omnipath and converted to a
175 simple interaction file (SIF) (Türei et al., 2016). Normalization was done per kinase across all the
176 FGFs. The average fold change to $t=0$ was scaled between 0-1 using the 99% interquartile range
177 (biological triplicates) described in **Equation 1**.

$$X = \frac{x - x_{.005}}{x_{.995} - x_{.005}}$$

178 Equation 1

179 Values < 0 or > 1 were set to 0 or 1, respectively. The different FGFs were set to 0.75 for their
180 modeling.

181 The model was trained using the freely available CNORode for all FGFs simultaneously (Terfve
182 et al., 2012). Each kinase can be described using a continuous update function B_i where the
183 activity of a kinase x_i is predicted $\{0,1\}$ using the associated upstream effectors, as shown in
184 Equation 2 (Wittmann et al., 2009).

$$x_i = \tau_i(B_i(f(x_{1,i}), f(x_{2,i}), \dots, f(x_{n,i}))) - x_i)$$

185 Equation 2

186 τ_i can be interpreted as the kinase responsiveness to upstream effectors where a small value
187 indicates a slower response. Each transfer function is a Hill-type function, as previously
188 described and presented in Equation 3 (Eduati et al., 2017).

$$189 \quad f_{ij}(x) = 1 - \frac{(1-x)^{n_{ij}}}{(1-x)^{n_{ij}} - k_{ij}^{n_{ij}}} (1 + k_{ij}^{n_{ij}})$$

190 Equation 3

191 The sigmoidal shape curve is determined by parameters n and k . The k parameter can be
192 interpreted as the strength of the interaction where a high k value describes a high signal
193 throughput.

194 **Kinase dynamic parameter estimation**

195 Each kinase is assigned a fixed n value of 3 and a k and τ value determined by the dynamic
196 modeling. CNORode and the MEIGOR toolkit were used, which uses the normalized kinase
197 activity data and the PKN to determine the best k and τ values based on the smallest root-mean-
198 square error (RMSE) (Egea et al., 2014). The method entails L2 normalization to prevent
199 overfitting, which was set to a value of 10^{-5} . The update function was verified to have achieved
200 optimal performance based on the RMSE response curves. Model goodness of fit was
201 determined using Pearson's r and the RMSE of all measured and predicted time points of all
202 kinases. The biological RMSE was determined using the deviation between the measured values
203 and the mean.

204 **Peptide work-up untargeted phosphoproteomics**

205 Peptide work-up was performed identically to the SRM peptide workup except that no heavy
206 labeled peptides were added after digestion.

207 **Peptide work-up untargeted proteomics**

208 Snap-frozen protein pellets were lysed, reduced, and alkylated in lysis buffer (1% sodium
209 deoxycholate (SDC), 10 mM tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride (TCEP)), 40 mM
210 chloroacetamide (CAA), and 100 mM TRIS, pH 8.0 supplemented with protease inhibitor
211 (cOmplete mini EDTA-free, Roche). Cells were heated at 95C and sonicated with a Bioruptor
212 Plus (Diagenode) for 15 cycles of 30 s. Bradford protein assay (Bio-Rad Protein Assay Kit I,
213 Bio-Rad) was used to determine the protein amount, after which samples were split into 10 μ g

214 aliquots. Proteins were digested overnight at 37C with 1:50 trypsin (Sigma-Aldrich) and 1:75
215 and lysyl endopeptidase (Wako), after which samples were desalted using an Oasis® platform,
216 dried down, and stored at -80 until further use.

217 **Data-dependent analysis of untargeted phosphoproteomics**

218 Samples were suspended in 2% formic acid and analyzed on an Exploris (Thermo Scientific)
219 coupled to an UltiMate 3000 (Thermo Scientific), fitted with a μ -precolumn (C18 PepMap100,
220 5 μ m, 100 Å, 5mm \times 300 μ m; Thermo Scientific), and an analytical column (120 EC-C18, 2.7 μ m,
221 50cm \times 75 μ m; Agilent Poroshell). Peptides are loaded in 9% Buffer A (0.1% FA) for 1 minute
222 and separated using 9-36% buffer B (80%ACN, 0.1%FA) in 97 min at 300nL/min and followed
223 by a 6 min column wash with 99% buffer B at 300nL/min, and a 10-minute column equilibration
224 at 9% B. The MS was operated in DDA mode, with the MS1 scans in a range of 375-1600 m/z
225 acquired at 60k, using an automatically set AGC target. MS2 scans were acquired with a 16s
226 dynamic exclusion at a 30k resolution, 28% normalized collision energy, and an isolation
227 window of 1.4 m/z.

228 Raw files were processed via MaxQuant version 1.6.17.0 using the verified human proteome
229 from UniprotKB (release 09-2019) containing 20369 proteins (Tyanova et al., 2016). A
230 maximum of 5 modifications and two miscleavages were set using fixed carbamidomethyl
231 modification, and the variable modifications oxidized methionine, protein N-terminal
232 acetylation, and serine/threonine/tyrosine phosphorylation. The protein and peptide false
233 discovery rates were set to < 0.01 and conducted with match between runs enabled. No
234 normalization or imputation was applied.

235 **Shotgun proteomics analysis**

236 Samples were suspended in 2% formic acid and analyzed on a Q-Exactive HF (Thermo
237 Scientific) coupled to an UltiMate 3000 (Thermo Scientific), fitted with a μ -precolumn (C18
238 PepMap100, 5 μ m, 100 Å, 5mm \times 300 μ m; Thermo Scientific), and an analytical column (120
239 EC-C18, 2.7 μ m, 50cm \times 75 μ m; Agilent Poroshell). Peptides are loaded in 9% Buffer A (0.1%
240 FA) for 1 minute and separated using 9-44% buffer B (80%ACN, 0.1%FA) in 155 min at
241 300nL/min and followed by a 6 min column wash with 95% buffer B at 300nL/min, and a 10-
242 minute column equilibration at 9% B. The MS was operated in DDA mode, with the MS1 scans
243 in a range of 375-1600 m/z acquired at 60k, using an AGC target of 3e6. MS2 scans were

244 acquired with a 24s dynamic exclusion at a 30k resolution, 27% normalized collision energy, and
245 an isolation window of 1.4 m/z.

246 Raw files were processed via MaxQuant version 1.6.17.0 using the verified human proteome
247 from UniprotKB (release 09-2019) containing 20369 proteins (Tyanova et al., 2016). A
248 maximum of 5 modifications and 2 miscleavages was set using fixed carbamidomethyl
249 modification, and the variable modifications oxidized methionine and protein N-terminal
250 acetylation. The protein and peptide false discovery rates were set to < 0.01 and conducted with
251 match between runs enabled. Further analysis was performed using artMS version 1.12.0
252 building on MSstats (Choi et al., 2014; Jimenez-Morales et al., 2019). MSstats imputation was
253 done using accelerated failure time modeling, and the samples were median normalized after
254 imputation.

255 **FGFR qPCR quantification**

256 MCF-7 cells were plated in triplicates. Subsequently, the samples were lysed and prepared for
257 qPCR analysis using the protocol adapted from (Korsten et al., 2022). In short, samples were
258 lysed and isolated using the vendor's instructions of NucleoSpin RNA plus (Macherey-Nagel)
259 with the addition of a DNase removal step using RNase-Free Dnase (Qiagen). Next, 500 ng of
260 RNA was used to obtain cDNA using the vendor's instructions of AH iScript (Bio-Rad). The
261 qPCR was performed at 95C for 10min, followed by (95C for 30 sec, 55C for 30 sec, and 72C
262 for 30sec), a total of 40 times. Normalization was performed using Beta-actin and
263 Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase following (Taylor et al., 2019). The primers used
264 are listed in supplementary table 1.

265 **RAP1 activation assay**

266 RAP1 activity was determined following the supplier's instructions (Merck, Cat# 17-321). In
267 short, MCF-7 cells were plated in 15cm plates and incubated for 60 minutes with FGF2, FGF3,
268 FGF4, FGF10, FGF19, or without FGF and lysed using the provided lysis buffer. After, equal
269 amounts of protein were used for the RAP1 pulldown, including one positive control consisting
270 of MCF-7 cell lysates incubated with GTP γ S. Subsequently, a western blot was conducted using
271 the provided RAP1 antibodies. Linear adjustments were performed using Fiji (Schindelin et al.,
272 2012).

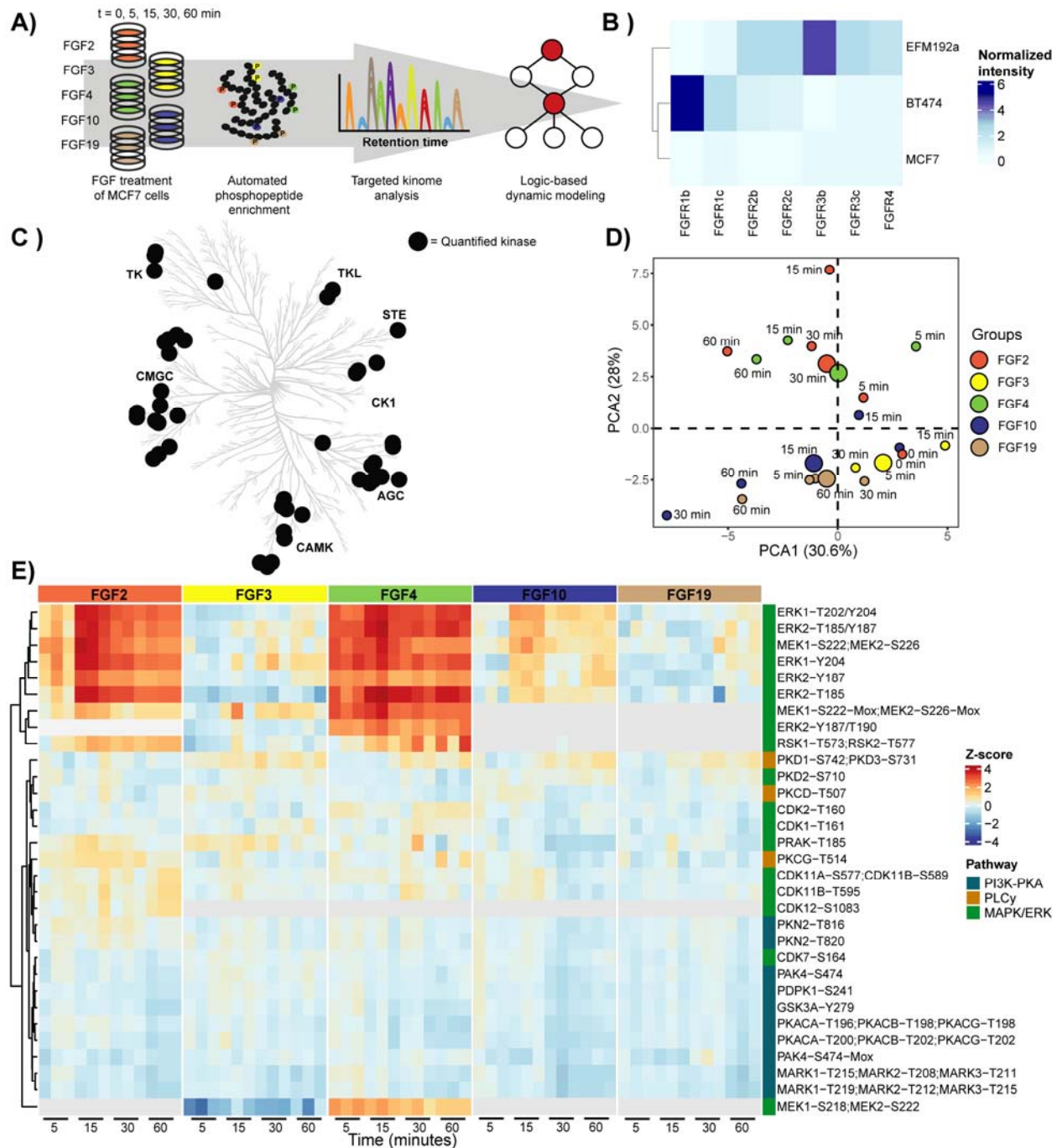
273 **Results**

274 **Dynamic kinase activity quantification**

275 Here we performed (phospho)proteomics experiments to elucidate the specific effect of different
276 FGF ligands on FGFR activation and downstream signaling. Thereby we focused on FGFR
277 signaling in breast cancer cells induced by either FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, or FGF19. To
278 understand signaling, we quantified temporal system-wide kinase activity using a dedicated
279 selected reaction monitoring (SRM) assay targeting the activation loops of a widespread panel of
280 kinases (**Figure 1A**). To increase kinome coverage of the kinases involved in the FGFR
281 signaling pathway, nearly 200 phosphopeptides spanning 50 kinases were included in the assay
282 earlier developed by Schmidlin et al. (2019), resulting in an assay comprising 484
283 phosphopeptides on 197 kinases (**Table S1**) (Schmidlin et al., 2019).

284 To select an appropriate cell line, this SRM assay was initially used to monitor the system-wide
285 kinome activity response of a set of breast cancer cell lines, namely MCF-7, BT-474, and EFM-
286 192a cells, upon FGF2 and FGF4 stimulation as these bind the majority of FGFR spliceforms.
287 From these data, we concluded that MCF-7 cells especially displayed a broad kinome response
288 after stimulation (**Figure S1**). We reasoned this would be explained by FGFR expression,
289 however, surprisingly, qPCR quantification of FGFR expression in the panel of tested cells
290 showed that the MCF-7 cells exhibited an overall low expression of FGFRs (**Figure 1B** and
291 **Figure S2**). This highlights that FGFR expression alone does not solely determine the extent of
292 downstream signaling. Due to the observed broad kinome response, we did proceed with the
293 MCF-7 cells, which were incubated with either FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, or FGF19, and the
294 cofactor heparin for 0, 5, 15, 30, and 60 minutes (Eswarakumar et al., 2005; Wolf et al., 2008).
295 Using the kinase activation loop SRM assays, we quantified kinase activity profiles of 46
296 phosphorylated sites spanning 44 kinases (**Table S2**). Of these, 35 kinases displayed significant
297 regulation over time (ANOVA $p < 0.05$) upon stimulation with at least one of the 5 tested FGF
298 ligands. Each of the tested ligands resulted in differential regulation of kinases across most
299 kinase families (**Figure 1C**) that were, as expected, primarily members of the MAPK/ERK,
300 PI3K, and/or PLC γ pathways (**Figure 1D/E**) (Ornitz & Itoh, 2015, 2022).

301



302

303 **Figure 1. Stimulation with FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, or FGF19 results in**
 304 **differential kinome regulation.** A) Schematic overview of the experimental approach,
 305 whereby a targeted kinase activation loop SRM assay was used to monitor system-wide
 306 kinase activity upon treatment of MCF-7 cells with distinct FGF ligands. B) qPCR
 307 experiments were performed to monitor FGFR expression on three different cell lines.
 308 FGFR expression was normalized to Beta-actin and Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate

309 dehydrogenase. **C)** Kinome tree with kinases significantly regulated by at least one of the
310 tested FGF ligands represented by black dots (ANOVA $p < 0.05$, triplicate measurements).
311 **D)** Principle Component Analysis (PCA) of the kinase activity data at different time points
312 and with the different tested FGFs. Mean values were used for the independent triplicate
313 measurements. **E)** Heatmap through unsupervised hierarchical clustering of all
314 significantly (ANOVA $p < 0.05$) regulated phosphorylated peptides over all time points
315 and FGFs (with each experiment performed in triplicate). Not identified phosphorylated
316 peptides are represented in grey.

317 **Fine-tuned activation of the MAPK/ERK signaling pathway**

318 As the MAPK/ERK pathway is known to be involved in FGF signaling, we first compared the
319 kinase activity profiles acquired with the SRM assays of kinases involved in this pathway. FGF-
320 stimulated MAPK/ERK activation is commonly regarded to be directed via the RAS-RAF-MEK-
321 ERK signaling cascade (Azami et al., 2017; Bockorny et al., 2018; Cho et al., 2009; Kunath et
322 al., 2007; Lovicu & McAvoy, 2001; Shalaby et al., 2009; Tomita et al., 2021). In MCF-7 cells,
323 only FGF2, FGF4, and FGF10 treatments significantly activated several of the kinases in the
324 MAPK/ERK pathway (**Figure 2A**).

325 Investigating the kinases involved in the MAPK/ERK pathway after either FGF2, FGF4, or
326 FGF10 treatment, showed rapid and high regulation of especially the main signaling hub of the
327 MAPK/ERK pathway, namely MEK (MEK1 and MEK2) and ERK (ERK1 and ERK2) (**Figure**
328 **2B**) (Lavoie et al., 2020). FGF2 and FGF4 treatment resulted in an >10-fold increase of MEK
329 and ERK activating phosphorylation and FGF10 an >2-fold increase. Notably, MEK and ERK
330 activation was about 10-fold higher compared to the other kinases in the MAPK/ERK pathway,
331 supporting their central role as signaling hub (**Figure 2B**). MEK and ERK dynamics per FGF
332 treatment showed high correlation, displaying direct regulation of ERK as the target of MEK.
333 However, MEK and ERK signaling dynamics showed a lower correlation between different FGF
334 stimulations, also in the case of strong activation via FGF2 and FGF4. FGF4 treatment resulted
335 in fast activation peaking at 15 min and showing an additional increase after the 30-minute time-
336 point. FGF2 treatment on the other hand showed slightly slower activation with also the
337 maximum at 15 minutes that plateaus from 30 minutes onwards (**Figure 2B**). This suggests
338 differential MAPK/ERK pathway regulation.

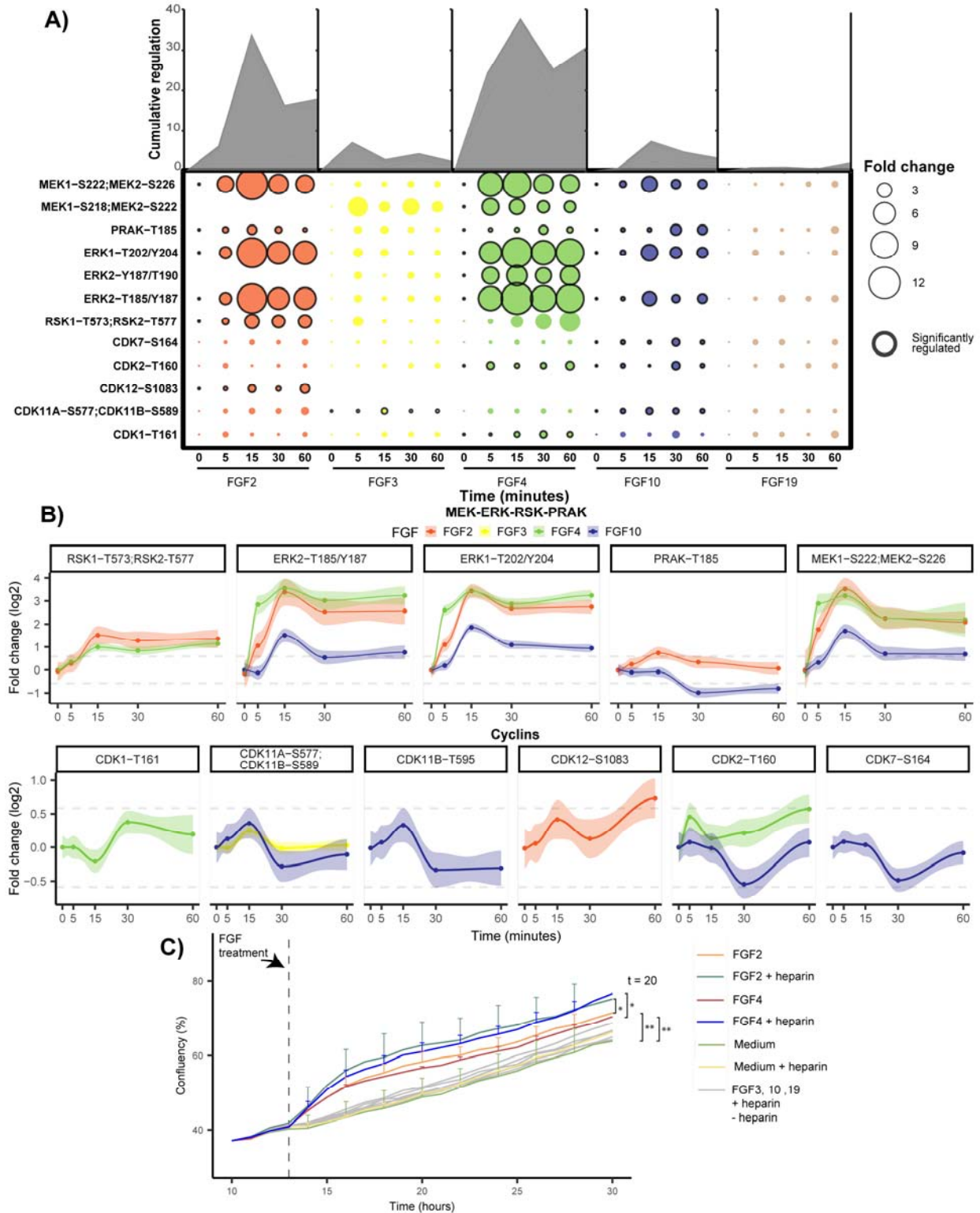
339 Even though FGF2, FGF4, and FGF10 all activated MEK and ERK, all ligands resulted in
340 unique downstream activation, which could either be the result of different activation
341 mechanisms and feedback loops or due to different activation dynamics of the same pathway
342 (Aoki et al., 2013; Raina et al., 2022). After FGF2 and FGF4 treatment, but not FGF10, MEK
343 and ERK dynamics highly correlated with RSK1 and RSK2 dynamics, which are regulators of
344 cell proliferation and cell survival (**Figure 2B**) (Anjum & Blenis, 2008; Houles & Roux, 2018;
345 Romeo et al., 2012). FGF2 incubation resulted in the activation of CDK12 and a transient 1.5-
346 fold increase in activating phosphorylation of PRAK, of which the role in the context of FGF has
347 remained elusive (Maher, 1999; New, 1998). FGF4 incubation resulted in the activation of
348 CDK1 and CDK2. Interestingly, CDK activation dynamics are relatively modest, with a
349 maximum increase in activating phosphorylation of 60% (**Figure 2B**). Uniquely, FGF10
350 treatment did not activate kinases downstream of ERK but inactivated CDK2, CDK7, CDK11a,
351 CDK11b, and PRAK. Inactivation of these kinases occurred concurrently after 30 minutes,
352 which may originate from a negative feedback loop (Kuo et al., 2014). FGF10 may initiate this
353 feedback loop by recycling its receptor FGFR2b to the cell membrane, or FGFR2b intracellular
354 transport may expose the receptor to the substrates responsible for the feedback loop (Smith et
355 al., 2021). Notably, only FGF10 showed sustained PRAK inactivation, which has been
356 associated with decreased tumor progression (P. Sun et al., 2007; Y. Wang et al., 2021).

357 FGF3 and FGF19 have been described to activate the MAPK/ERK pathway in a subset of cell
358 lines through FGFR4 activation (Desnoyers et al., 2008; Shi et al., 2009; Shinya et al., 2001;
359 Teng et al., 2018, p. 201). In contrast, in our dataset, we did not observe any activation of the
360 MAPK/ERK pathway after FGF3 and FGF19 stimulations, although, in our proteome profiles of
361 MCF-7 cells after 24 hours of incubation with different FGFs, we did clearly identify the FGFR4
362 receptor.

363 In the context of FGF stimulation, MAPK/ERK pathway activation is considered to drive cell
364 growth and increase tumor progression (Koledova et al., 2019; Lovicu & McAvoy, 2001; Y. Sun
365 et al., 2017). To verify whether cell growth was indeed induced in our experimental conditions,
366 we monitored cell growth after FGF stimulations using an IncuCyte ZOOM™. Only after
367 stimulation with FGF2 and FGF4 we temporarily observed significantly increased cell growth
368 (two-tailed t-test, $p < 0.05$) (**Figure 2C**). This finding was in line with the high MAPK/ERK

369 pathway activation quantified in FGF2 and FGF4-stimulated cells. FGF10 stimulation did not
370 substantially increase cell growth even though the MAPK/ERK pathway was activated. This
371 suggests that a signaling threshold must be reached to activate proliferation or that alternative
372 signaling is required for cell growth. Notably, adding heparin significantly increased the
373 proliferation rate of FGF2 and FGF4-treated MCF-7 cells, while only adding heparin did not
374 increase cell proliferation (**Figure 2C**).

375



376

377 **Figure 2. Regulation of kinases and cyclins implicated in the MAPK/ERK pathway. A)**

378 Measured phosphorylated peptides involved in the MAPK/ERK pathway that show

379 significant regulation (ANOVA $p < 0.05$, independent triplicate measurements) following

380 incubation with at least one of the tested FGFs. Black-edged circles represent significant
381 phosphosites. The area of the circle represents cumulative regulation in fold change of the
382 measured phosphopeptides measured in triplicate over 5 subsequent time points. The
383 dynamic phosphorylation of the sites is color-coded by the FGF ligand used, and only
384 plots are depicted when the ligand changed the phosphorylation at that site significantly.
385 Grey lines represent a 1.5 fold-change, and 90% confidence intervals are presented per
386 phosphopeptide. C) Influence of incubation with the FGF ligand and heparin on cellular
387 growth. Growth curves of MCF-7 cells, incubated with 50ng/mL of each of the tested FGF
388 ligands with or without 5 μ g/mL of heparin. The confluency percentage was taken as a
389 readout to analyze cell growth and plotted (data was acquired in triplicate showing the
390 standard deviations per time point and ligand used).

391 **Consistent down-regulation of the PI3K and PKA pathway**

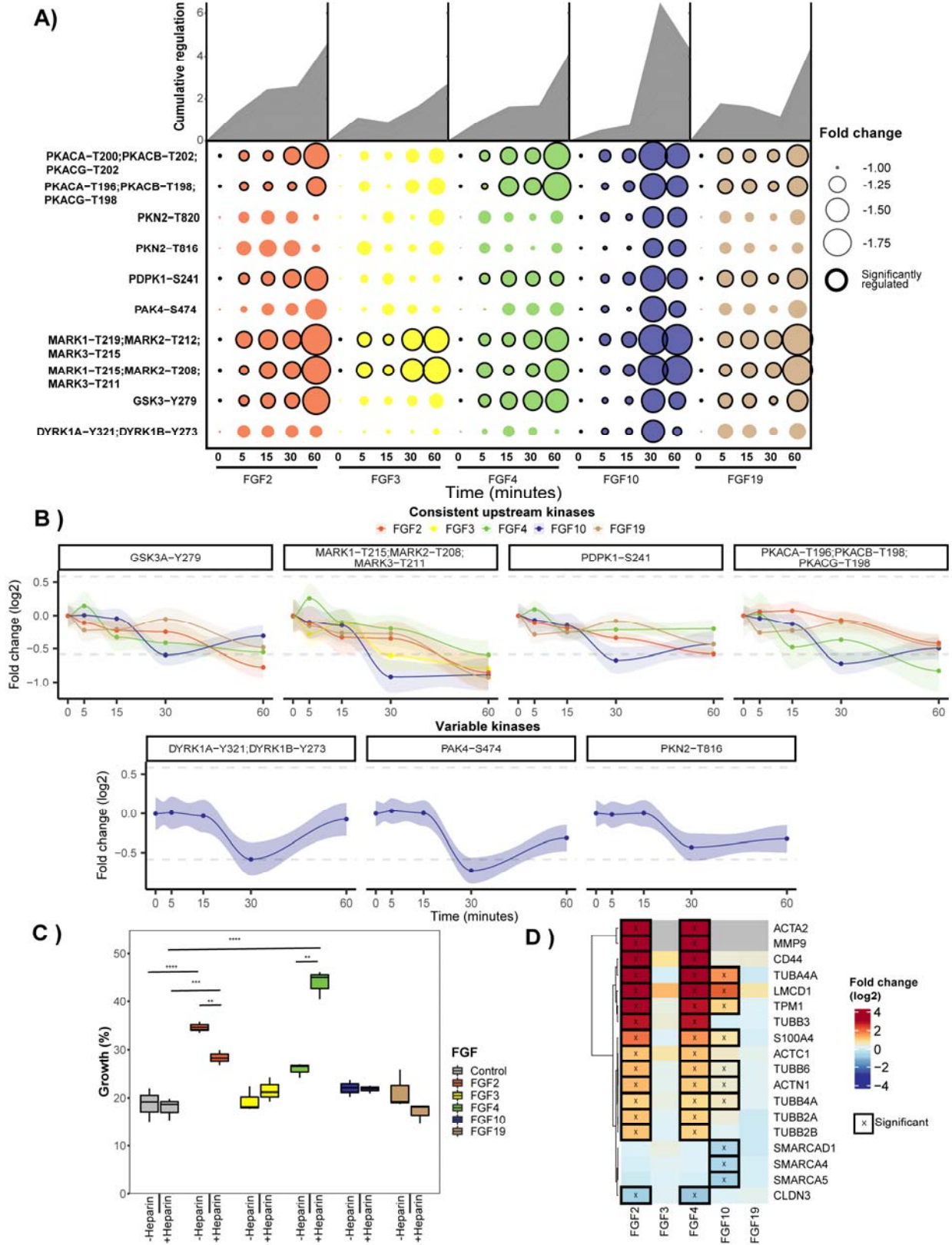
392 Next, we examined the PI3K and PKA pathways. In our analysis, incubation with each of the
393 tested FGFs, except FGF3, resulted in the significant inactivation of the PI3K and PKA pathways
394 (**Figure 3A**). The PKA pathway is not commonly described to be regulated by FGFs. However,
395 we quantified the change in phosphorylation of the upstream regulator PDPK1, which directly
396 regulates PKA activity by phosphorylating Thr-197 (Cauthron et al., 1998). All measured
397 kinases involved in the PKA pathway highly correlated with PDPK1 dynamics for all FGF
398 stimulations in our dataset, revealing possible crosstalk between the PI3K and the PKA pathway.

399 All tested FGFs, except for FGF3, resulted in similar inactivation of PDPK1 and the PKA
400 pathway kinases PKA, GSK3A, and MARK kinases (**Figure 3B**). Inactivation was consistent but
401 modest. The most significant decrease was a 2-fold decrease on two phosphorylated sites in the
402 activation loop of MARK1, MARK2, and MARK3, respectively (**Figure S3**). Notably, no
403 relation has been described between MARK kinases and FGF signaling up to this day. MARK
404 kinases control cell polarity by regulating microtubules, and reduced MARK kinase activity has
405 been linked to EMT, which is in line with the EMT-inducing effects of FGFs (Drewes et al.,
406 1997; Sonntag et al., 2017).

407 Besides the similar PI3K and PKA pathway regulation by FGF2, FGF4, FGF10, and FGF19,
408 solely FGF10 stimulation led to a decrease in phosphorylation of the downstream kinases PAK4,
409 DYRK1A, DYRK1B, and PKN (**Figure 2B**). This reveals broad FGF10-induced negative
410 regulatory mechanisms. Notably, the inhibited PAK4, which plays a role in cell adhesion, can be

411 regulated via ERK and the PI3K pathway (Qu et al., 2001; Ramos-Alvarez & Jensen, 2018;
412 Thillai et al., 2017; Won et al., 2019). The observed kinase activity dynamics of PAK4 strongly
413 correlated with the rest of the PI3K pathway while opposing the MAPK/ERK pathway activity
414 dynamics. This observation suggests that PAK4 is linked to the PI3K pathway, not the
415 MAPK/ERK pathway.

416 FGF2, FGF4, FGF10, and FGF19 have all been described to induce EMT, which is thought to be
417 partially regulated via the regulation of the PI3K pathway and is regarded as a key process in
418 regulating tumor metastasis (Katoh & Katoh, 2006; B. P. Zhou et al., 2004). This agrees with the
419 targeted kinome data that revealed PI3K pathway inactivation for these FGFs. To investigate
420 whether the tested FGFs induced EMT, we next performed a wound-healing assay that assays
421 cell migration capabilities, which is a key process in EMT (Grada et al., 2017; Yan et al., 2010).
422 These assays revealed that, only FGF2 and FGF4 showed a significant increase in wound-healing
423 capacity of 15 and 5% compared to unstimulated MCF-7 cells, respectively (**Figure 3C**).
424 Interestingly, with the addition of heparin, this dampened to 10% for FGF2 and increased to 40%
425 for FGF4, revealing a modest role for heparin in regulating EMT. To find further support for
426 FGF-induced EMT, we extracted proteins from the EMTome database associated with EMT,
427 specifically focusing on proteins that directly trigger EMT or are key markers for EMT (Vasaikar
428 et al., 2021). In their proteomic profiles (**Table S3**), FGF2 and FGF4 stimulations showed an
429 identical profile of 15 EMT-associated proteins significantly regulated after 24 hours (**Figure**
430 **3D**), supporting an EMT-like phenotype downstream of FGF2 and FGF4. FGF10 stimulation
431 resulted in less pronounced expression changes in 7 of the 15 observed EMT proteins, in part
432 confirming the role of FGF10 in inducing EMT, whereas FGF3 and FGF19 showed no
433 significant expression changes in EMT-related proteins (Brabletz et al., 2018). This is further
434 supported by GSEA analysis of the hallmarks of EMT as provided by MSigDB, which in our
435 proteome data are only significantly upregulated after FGF2 and FGF4 treatment (**Figure S4**)
436 (Subramanian et al., 2005). Altogether, these findings show FGF2, FGF4, FGF10, FGF19 all
437 inactivated the PI3K pathway. However, only FGF2 and FGF4-treatment resulted in increased
438 wound healing capacities and an EMT-like phenotype on proteome level, FGF10 treatment only
439 resulted in a more EMT-like phenotype on proteome level, and FGF19 did not show either.
440 Besides PI3K inactivation, further mechanisms must thus be regulated to induce EMT.



442 **Figure 3. Regulation of kinases implicated in the PKA and PI3K pathways** A) All
443 significantly regulated phosphopeptides of the PI3K pathway are represented as the mean
444 across triplicates ($p < 0.05$ ANOVA). Cumulative absolute regulation in fold change is
445 represented in the area plot to show overall pathway regulation. B) Regulation of
446 significant (ANOVA $p < 0.05$) changing phosphopeptides are plotted from the PI3K
447 pathway. Grey lines represent a 1.5 fold-change and 90% confidence intervals are
448 presented per phosphopeptide. C) MCF-7 cells were subjected to a scratch wound assay,
449 and after 24 hours percentage closure of the scratch was measured. The boxplots represent
450 triplicate measurements of FGF-stimulated cells with or without $5 \mu\text{g}/\mu\text{L}$ heparin. A two-
451 sided t-test was used to validate the significance. D) Proteins associated with EMT were
452 extracted from the shotgun dataset. Significantly regulated proteins are displayed using an
453 asterisk (FDR < 0.05).

454 **Undistinguished PLC γ signaling along the FGF-FGFR axis**

455 Next, we explored the measured activity profiles of the kinases within the PLC γ pathway. The
456 PLC γ pathway is relatively understudied in the context of FGFR stimulation and regulates
457 specialized functions (Kim et al., 2003; Lima et al., 2009; Mohammadi et al., 1991; Niger et al.,
458 2010; Ranieri et al., 2020; Szybowska et al., 2021). In our current study, PKD1, PKD2, PKD3,
459 PKC δ , and PKC γ showed significant regulation when incubated with at least one of the tested
460 FGFs (**Figure S5**). Kinase activation dynamics were non-linear, hinting at the presence of
461 multiple feedback loops (Kuo et al., 2014). Moreover, kinases in the PLC γ pathway showed a
462 relatively low correlation in their activation dynamics, and all tested FGFs showed distinct
463 kinase regulation (**Figure S5**).

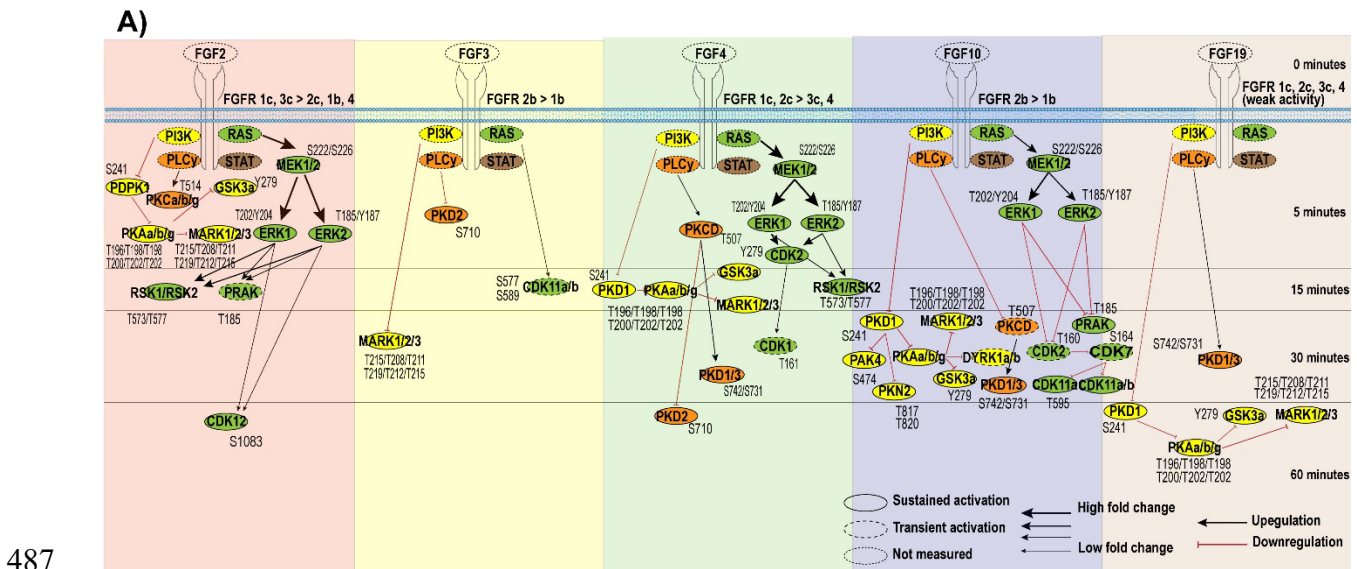
464 Indeed, only FGF2 transiently activated PKC $\alpha/\beta/\gamma$ by activating phosphorylation Thr-514, yet no
465 other PLC γ pathway kinases were regulated (Kelher et al., 2017). FGF4, FGF10, and FGF19 all
466 activated PKD1 and PKD3, whereas FGF4 and FGF10 also showed the inactivation of PKC δ
467 and PKD2 or only PKC δ , respectively.

468 **Distinct FGF ligands induce distinct and diverse temporal dynamics in phospho-signaling**

469 Not only does FGF specificity to the various FGFRs determine the biological outcome, but also
470 the affinity for the various FGFRs is crucial. In RTKs biology, it is known that ligands with high
471 affinity to the receptor can lead to fast, transient activation, while lower affinity ligands, binding
472 to the same receptor, lead to a slower sustained activation, resulting in a different biological

473 outcome (Huang et al., 2017; Kiyatkin et al., 2020). To evaluate whether each FGF differentially
 474 regulated signaling dynamics, OmniPath was used to construct biological networks in which
 475 kinases are ordered based on the initial time point when regulation was observed (**Figure 5**)
 476 (Türei et al., 2016).

477 Indeed, in our data, each of the tested FGFs did lead to distinct timing of initial pathway
 478 regulation. FGF2 induced a fast initial activation within 5 minutes of all measured pathways.
 479 This is expected as FGF2 binds to most FGFRs with high affinity (Ornitz et al., 1996). Although
 480 FGF4 binds the same FGFR subset as FGF2, except for FGFR1b, it does so with different
 481 affinity. As a potential consequence, and in contrast to FGF2, FGF4 stimulation inactivated the
 482 PI3K and PKA pathways in our experiments only after 15 minutes (**Figure 5**). FGF10
 483 stimulation activated the MAPK/ERK pathway within 5 minutes, similar to FGF2 and FGF4.
 484 However, this was followed by a strong downregulation after 30 minutes of more downstream
 485 targets. Last, FGF3 and FGF19 resulted in relatively slow (and modest) activation only 30
 486 minutes after stimulation (**Figure 5**).



488 **Figure 5. Temporal kinome dynamics following FGF treatment. A)** MCF-7 cells were treated
 489 with either FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, or FGF19, together with heparin. The resulting temporal
 490 kinome dynamics were quantified using the targeted activation loop assay and normalized to the
 491 t=0 time point. The presented kinome signaling dynamics are separated per FGF used for
 492 stimulation, and kinases are ordered based on significant initial activation (ANOVA + Tukey's

493 range test, $p < 0.05$, biological triplicates). Black and red arrows indicate whether measured
494 kinase activity increased or decreased over time, respectively. The fold change compared to the
495 $t=0$ time point is represented by the thickness of the arrows.

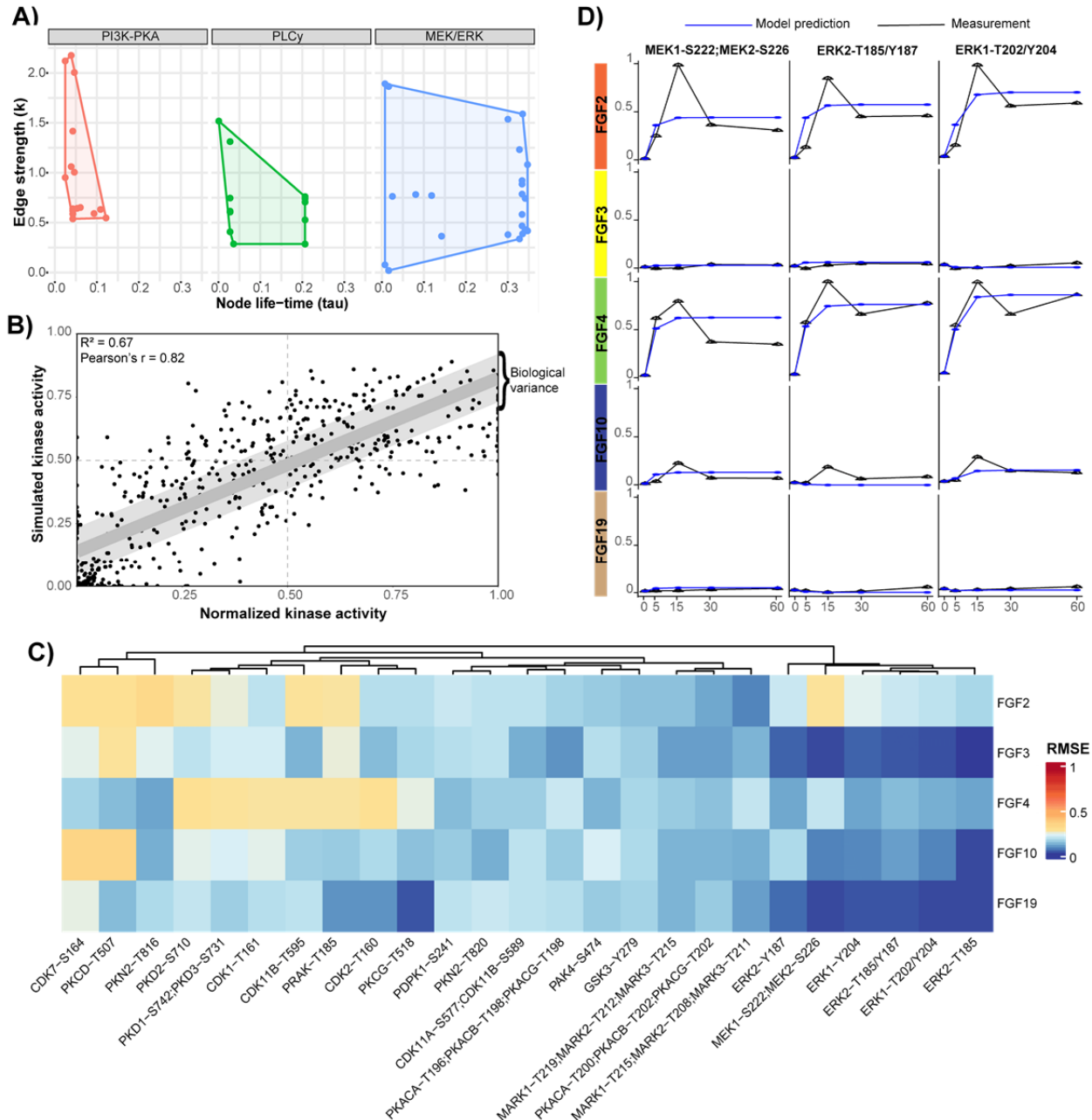
496 **Logic-based dynamic modeling validates the known FGF pathways but also identifies** 497 **putative new players**

498 Pathway models such as in Figure 5 are based on existing knowledge and are thus inherently
499 biased towards well-characterized pathways. Therefore, validation of the biological model is
500 needed to identify either missing or inaccurate connections between kinases or missing signaling
501 nodes. To verify our biological model, predict signaling dynamics between kinases, and find
502 possible gaps, we used a dynamic mechanistic model based on logic-based ordinary differential
503 equations (Morris et al., 2010). First, a prior knowledge network (PKN) was built using
504 information available via OmniPath using only kinases quantified in all FGF stimulations
505 (**Figure 5**) (Türei et al., 2016). Next, the logistic-based ordinal differentiations were calculated
506 using the quantitative longitudinal kinase activity data of all FGF stimulations together. For each
507 node, a speed factor (τ) was calculated to represent the responsiveness of a kinase's activation to
508 upstream kinases activation (Wittmann et al., 2009). Low values indicate a slow transfer of
509 activation from kinases' upstream activators. For each node, also an edge-specific transmission
510 parameter (k) was calculated, which represents the quantitative signal that is transferred between
511 kinases (Wittmann et al., 2009). High values of the non-linear k parameters indicate that
512 relatively little quantitative signal is transferred via the edge. To evaluate the quality of the
513 predicted τ and k values, Pearson's r and the RMSE of all the quantitative kinome values in the
514 model were assessed and compared to the RMSE between biological replicates (**Figure 6A** and
515 **B**). The RMSE of the model (0.18) is almost as low as the RMSE observed between the
516 biological replicates (0.1). The model thus successfully predicts most of the kinase activity, with
517 a small error likely due to unknown entries in the PKN.

518 To explore these unknowns in the PKN, the RMSE of individual phosphopeptides was evaluated
519 (**Figure 6C**). High RMSE suggests that the model is insufficient to predict a kinase activation
520 state, which results from missing or erroneous connections between nodes in the network.
521 Therefore, a high predictive error can be used to find novel biological connections or nodes. The
522 model showed no highly contradictory prediction errors for single kinases (RMSE error > 0.5),

523 which occurs when activation of one kinase leads to activation of the next kinase, but
524 inactivation is measured. However, some kinases showed errors that were higher than the
525 biological variance.

526 Kinases with a relatively high error are part of the PLC γ and MAPK/ERK pathways. Error in
527 kinases regulated by the PLC γ pathway is expected due to the low pathway coverage (**Figure 5**).
528 Surprising, however, is the substantial error in MEK activity prediction after FGF2 stimulation
529 (**Figure 6C**). The model failed to predict the fast activation of MEK and ERK, and did not
530 incorporate the oscillatory patterns typical for feedback loops (**Figure 6D**). Further, following
531 MEK-ERK signaling downstream, all measured CDKs, including CDK1, CDK2, CDK7,
532 CDK11a, and CDK11b, show a relatively high predictive error. This suggests differential MEK-
533 ERK signaling to their downstream effectors. We, therefore, hypothesized that the error in MEK-
534 ERK-CDK signaling is indicative of unknown links between kinases or missing nodes in the
535 current model. We will focus on this more in the next section.



536

537 **Figure 6. Logic-based dynamic modeling reveals unknowns in FGF-induced signaling.**

538 **A)** Logic-based dynamic modeling was used to predict a speed factor (τ) and a
 539 transmission parameter (k) for the kinases across the PI3K, PKA, PLC γ , and MAPK/ERK
 540 pathways. These represent the signal transduction speed and the quantitative signal
 541 transferred between kinases, respectively. **B)** The root mean squared error (RMSE) of the
 542 predicted values by logic-based dynamic modeling and the measured values by the
 543 targeted kinome loops assay. The values were normalized using the 99% interquartile
 544 range. The light grey area represents the biological variation in the measurements. The

545 dots represented are the mean values of the replicates and all time points. **C)** Mean RMSE
546 values for the measured vs. predicted kinase activity values. The modeling was performed
547 using identical networks, meaning downstream kinase-kinase relations constitute the same
548 predictive k and τ values. Therefore, predictive downstream errors may indicate
549 differential regulation between FGFs. **D)** Line plots of the measured and predicted kinase
550 activity using the function with the lowest error across all FGF stimulations. Before the
551 logic-based dynamic modeling, the average of the quantified kinome values was taken
552 (biological triplicates) and normalized using the 99% interquartile range. The blue line
553 represents the model prediction, and the black line represents the quantified kinase
554 activity using the targeted kinome assay.

555 **Modeling guided analysis unveils differential FGF signaling**

556 With the aim to explain the predictive modeling errors for MEK, ERK, and CDKs, we expanded
557 the model using manually curated literature mining, shotgun phosphoproteomics analysis of
558 FGF-stimulated MCF-7 cells (**Table S4**), and our targeted kinome data. Significantly regulated
559 proteins were used to construct a more refined pathway (**Figure 7A**) (Gotoh, 2008; Hadari et al.,
560 1998; Yang et al., 2006).

561 A potential missing link came from the phosphoproteomics data that suggested a RAP1
562 activation signature exclusively for FGF2. RAP1 is an alternative activator of MEK-ERK, whose
563 activators include EPAC2 and SRC, and its main negative regulator is RAP1gap (**Figure 7A**)
564 (Looi et al., 2020; Schmitt & Stork, 2002; Stokman et al., 2014). Uniquely, FGF2 treatment
565 abolished the signal of Tyr-284 and Thr-301 phosphorylation of EPAC2, which is important for
566 EPAC2 membrane localization. Moreover, FGF2 treatment increased activating phosphorylation
567 Ser-17 of SRC about 4-fold and resulted in a 1.6-fold increase in regulating phosphorylation Ser-
568 484 on RAP1gap (Daumke et al., 2004; de Rooij et al., 2000; Fukuyama et al., 2005, 2006;
569 Rehmann et al., 2003, 2006). These phosphorylations highlight possible RAP1 activation.
570 Therefore, we conducted a RAP1 activity assay. However, this RAP1 activation assay showed no
571 significant RAP1 activation in all tested ligands (**Figure S6**). From these data, we concluded that
572 although pathways commonly involved in RAP1 activation were regulated, RAP1 was not
573 activated and thus was not the cause of differential MEK-ERK dynamics.

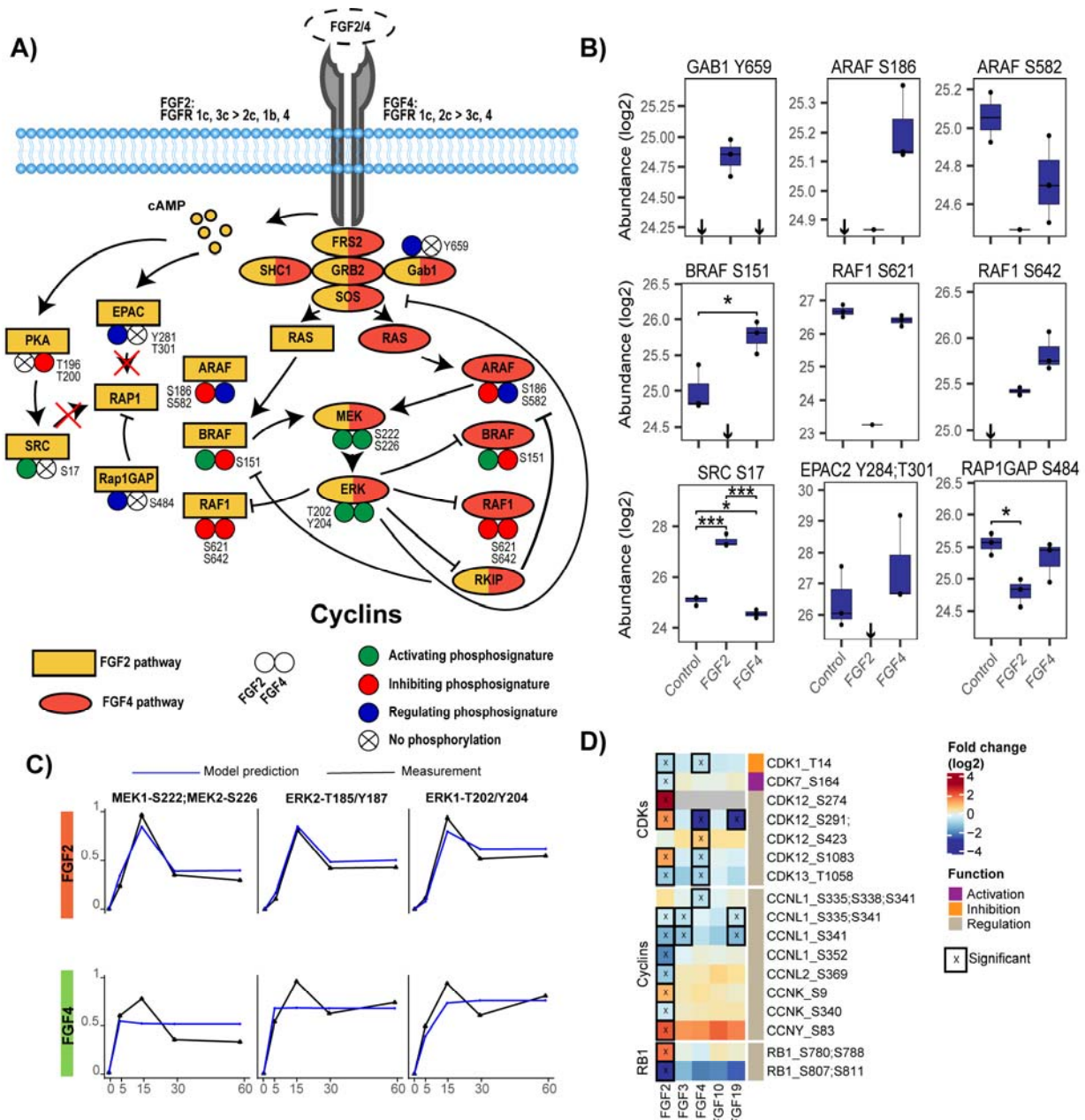
574 Next, we compared FGF2 and FGF4-induced signaling along a more detailed RAS-RAF-MEK-
575 ERK signaling axis (**Figure 7A and B**). FGF2 and FGF4 treatment resulted in fine-tuned and

576 distinct regulation along this signaling axis, especially of the RAF family members (ARAF,
577 BRAF, RAF1) that coordinate MEK-ERK activation (Maurer et al., 2011). Solely FGF2
578 treatment enabled BRAF activity by abolishing the signal of the inhibitory ERK target site Ser-
579 151 on BRAF (**Figure 7B**) (Marquette et al., 2011). Moreover, FGF2 treatment resulted in
580 reduced activity of ARAF following significant downregulation of Ser-582 phosphorylation,
581 which is needed for 14-3-3 binding to increase the activity of ARAF (Baljuls et al., 2008). FGF2
582 also resulted in a reduced active state of RAF1 implied by an 8-fold lower signal of Ser-621
583 phosphorylation, necessary for 14-3-3 activation, and by the negative feedback phosphorylation
584 of Ser-642 by ERK on RAF1 (**Figure 7B**) (Dhillon et al., 2009; Zang et al., 2008) (Dougherty et
585 al., 2005). Contrarily, FGF4 stimulation showed an activating signature for ARAF, indicated by
586 the phosphorylation of the regulatory site Ser-186 on ARAF (Stuart et al., 2015). Further, FGF4
587 stimulation resulted in inhibitory phosphorylation on BRAF and RAF1, with a twofold increase
588 in Ser-151 phosphorylation on BRAF, and a strong increase in Ser-642 phosphorylation on
589 RAF1, which was absent in the control (**Figure 7B**). In conclusion, the RAF family members
590 showed differential regulation as FGF2 treatment indicated BRAF-driven activation, while FGF4
591 treatment indicated ARAF-driven activation.

592 To further validate these signaling differences, we again applied logic-based dynamic modeling
593 using the data from the targeted kinome assay. In the updated model, FGF2 signaling was
594 directed via BRAF and FGF4 via ARAF. Moreover, to model the negative feedback loops, one
595 negative feedback loop between ERK and the FGF activation of ARAF and BRAF was added, as
596 well as a negative feedback loop from ERK to RKIP and from RKIP to ARAF and BRAF
597 activation of MEK (Shin et al., 2009). The updated pathway showed improved modeling
598 accuracy (**Figure 7C**). Especially the FGF2 signaling prediction now has high accuracy that
599 follows the measured feedback loops, giving confidence to the predicted biological pathway.
600 Prediction of FGF4 signaling dynamics was also improved over the initial model, with more
601 accurately modeled activation dynamics, however, is not optimal yet (**Figure 7C**). Indeed, the
602 updated model supports the two different modes of ERK activation downstream of FGF2 and
603 FGF4, yet, alternative regulators need to be identified to fully explain FGF signaling dynamics.

604 Following ERK activation further downstream, we set out to use the shotgun phosphoproteomics
605 data to confirm predictive errors for the CDKs and validate differential regulation downstream of

606 ERK. Cumulatively, 17 different phosphorylated sites on proteins that regulate the cell cycle
607 were quantified, including CDKs, cyclins that regulate CDK activity, and RB1, which are all
608 central to cell cycle progression (**Figure 7D**) (Loog & Morgan, 2005; Valverde et al., 2022).
609 FGF3, FGF10, and FGF19 showed little CDK regulation in our model, in line with the targeted
610 kinome data and the modeling results. FGF2 and FGF4 showed distinct activation patterns of
611 CDKs (**Figure 7D**), agreeing with the targeted kinome data and the modeling error. These
612 distinct activation patterns confirm the predictive error of the dynamic model and show that
613 FGF2 and FGF4 regulate cell cycle progression differently.



614

615 **Figure 7. Regulation of RAF family kinases modulates ERK signaling.** A) Mapping of
 616 phosphorylations of proteins involved in ERK activation shows tight regulation of the
 617 RAF kinase family members. The regulation does occur in the RAP1 activation pathway of
 618 ERK, yet no RAP1 activation was measured, suggesting this does not contribute to ERK
 619 activation. B) Quantified peptide abundances corresponding to figure 7A. Significance is
 620 depicted using * (p < 0.05) or *** (p < 0.001) using a two-sided t-test (biological
 621 triplicates). If all values are below the detection limit, this is shown using a ↓.
 622 Abundances are acquired using shotgun phosphoproteomics after 60-minute stimulation

623 with the different FGFs. **C)** Line plots of the measured kinase activity and the predicted
624 kinase activity using the function with the lowest error across all FGF stimulations. The
625 PKN used is the updated biological pathways, also presented in figure 7A. The average of
626 biological triplicates was taken and normalized using the 99% interquartile range. Model
627 predictions are shown in blue, and quantified kinase activity is shown in black. **D)**
628 Phosphorylation of cell cycle regulating proteins from the phosphoproteomics data.
629 Significant regulated sites are displayed (two-sided t-test, $p < 0.05$, biological triplicates).
630 Scores represent \log_2 fold changes.

631 **Discussion**

632 By investigating the FGF-induced dynamic kinome regulation using a targeted kinome assay, we
633 quantified and compared the signaling responses of FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, and FGF19. All
634 FGF stimulations resulted in a unique biological response in MCF-7 cells, with FGF2 and FGF4
635 having the broadest kinome response, FGF10 having a moderate response, and FGF3 and FGF19
636 showing a modest response. We find complex activation mechanisms that initiate FGF signaling
637 as biological responses upon FGF stimulation vary between cell lines, do not correlate with
638 FGFR expression level and are influenced by heparin.

639 Looking at the FGFs in a breast cancer context, FGF-stimulated cells activate biological
640 pathways that can contribute to the hallmarks of cancer (Hanahan & Weinberg, 2011; Xie et al.,
641 2020). The MAPK/ERK pathway is thought to drive cell proliferation, and the PI3K pathway is
642 believed to regulate EMT (Kunath et al., 2007). However, we find that simply activating these
643 pathways does not per se lead to cell proliferation or EMT, respectively. Importantly, this
644 irregularity between kinome or pathway activation and predicted biological outcome emphasizes
645 the complexity of these processes and their incomplete understanding. FGF2 and FGF4 increased
646 cell proliferation and EMT in MCF-7 cells. However, FGF3, FGF10, and FGF19 are reported to
647 regulate cell proliferation and EMT but were not able to regulate these processes in our system.
648 Additional signaling factors may be needed to sensitize or co-stimulate the cells for a more
649 pronounced biological response (Desnoyers et al., 2008; W. Wang et al., 2015; Watson &
650 Francavilla, 2018).

651 The quantification of dynamic kinase responses instead of single time points is highly
652 advantageous for understanding FGF-stimulated signaling because these dynamics expose

653 unknown signaling routes and improve the reliability of the predicted signaling network. Often
654 biological networks are deduced from literature without proper validation. For this purpose,
655 logic-based dynamic modeling provides a suitable solution. Logic-based dynamic modeling of
656 the FGF stimulations resulted in an overall low network error implying feasible network
657 predictions. Mainly the PLC γ pathway showed higher predictive errors due to a higher sparsity
658 of the network, partly due to limited insights into PLC γ signaling in the FGF context. This
659 highlights the importance of further studying PLC γ signaling to understand its functions in FGF
660 signaling (Brewer et al., 2016).

661 The dynamic modeling highlighted differential and fine-tuned regulation of the MAPK/ERK
662 pathway. Regulating phosphorylations of the RAF kinases indicate that FGF2 stimulation is
663 directed via BRAF, while FGF4 stimulation is directed via ARAF. Literature on RAF kinase
664 family regulation by FGFs is limited; however, understanding RAF regulation is essential
665 because different RAF kinases perform different biological functions (Dumaz, 2011; Wellbrock
666 et al., 2004). Moreover, understanding RAF signaling provides targeted insights that can be
667 exploited to successfully deploy RAF specific inhibitors in various diseases, such as cancer
668 (Saini et al., 2013). For example, Metzner et al., show that FGF-driven melanoma is, in some
669 cases, sensitive to the BRAF inhibitor RG7204 (Metzner et al., 2011).

670 To conclude, this study highlights the differential signaling of FGFs and adopts existing logic-
671 based dynamic modeling techniques to direct, strengthen, and increase the discovered biological
672 knowledge.

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682 **Author contributions**

683 **Tim S. Veth:** Conceptualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Investigation; Resources;
684 Software; Visualization; Writing – original draft. **Chiara Francavilla:** Conceptualization;
685 Writing – review & editing. **Albert J.R. Heck:** Conceptualization; Funding acquisition;
686 Resources; Writing – review & editing. **Maarten A.F.M. Altelaar:** Conceptualization; Funding
687 acquisition; Resources; Writing – review & editing.

688 **Declaration of interest**

689 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

690 **Data availability**

691 Data are available via ProteomeXchange with identifier PXD038836 :

692 (Username: reviewer_pxd038836@ebi.ac.uk ; Password: CCMgJt8J)

693 Data are available via ProteomeXchange with identifier PXD038808:

694 (Username: reviewer_pxd038808@ebi.ac.uk ; Password: mYXS1PfR)

695 Data are available via ProteomeXchange with identifier PXD039005:

696 (Username: panorama+reviewer164@proteinms.net; Password: AlheltWY)

697 The used R scripts are available at: https://github.com/TVeth/FGF_Veth_2023

698

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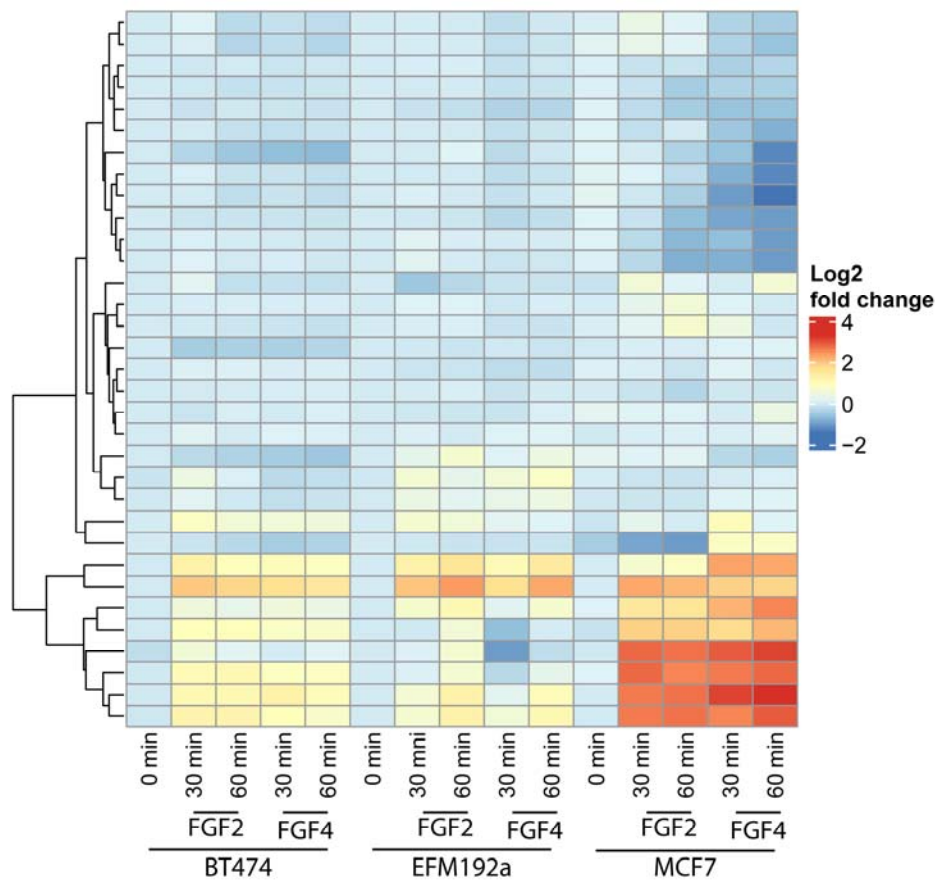
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1155 Supplemental information

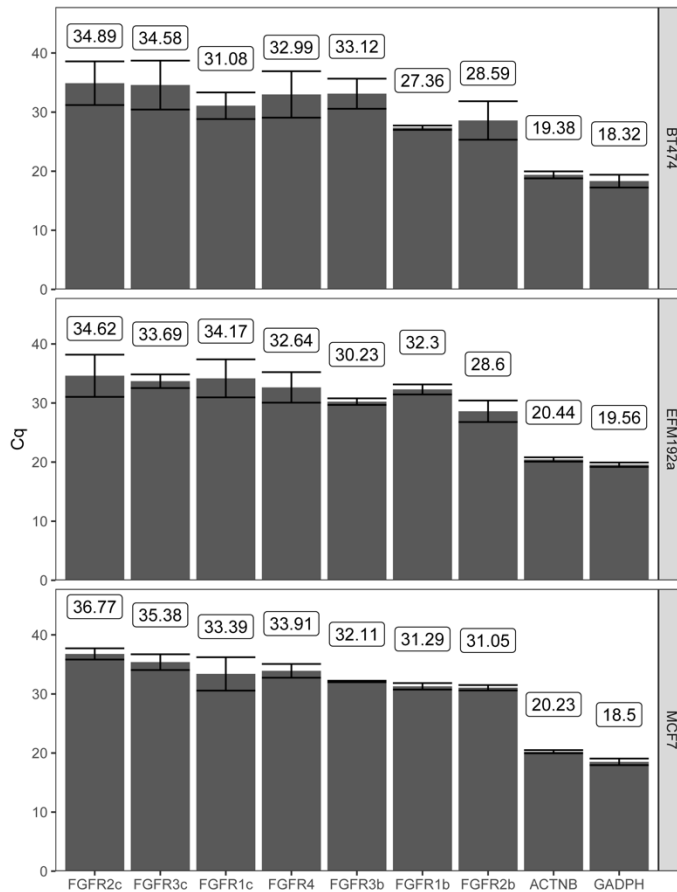
1156 Supplementary Figure 1: Kinome activity after FGF stimulation in breast cancer.



1157

1158 **Supplementary Figure 1: Kinome activity after FGF stimulation in breast cancer**
1159 **cells.** MCF-7, BT-474, and EFM-192a cells were stimulated with 50ng/mL of either FGF2
1160 or FGF4 supplemented with 5µg/mL of heparin. After 0, 30, and 60 minutes, the cells were
1161 harvested and subjected to measurement using the targeted kinome assay. The heatmap
1162 shows the quantified activation-determining phosphorylated sites on the kinases
1163 (biological triplicates). Only significantly changing values are shown (ANOVA $p < 0.05$).

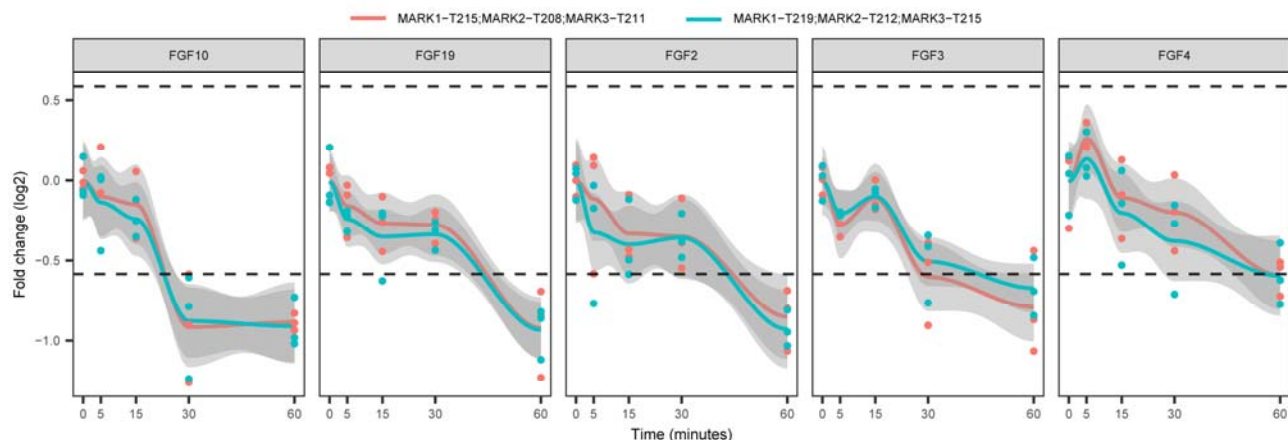
1164 **Supplementary Figure 2: qPCR quantification of FGFR abundance.**



1165

1166 **Supplementary Figure 2: qPCR quantification of FGFR abundance.** FGFR expression
1167 levels were quantified using qPCR in MCF-7, BT-474, and EFM-192a cells using FGFR
1168 subtype-specific primers (triplicate measurements) (**Supplementary table 5**). Beta-actin
1169 and Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase was quantified to enable normalization
1170 across cell types. Reported values are the quantitation cycles (Cq) that negatively
1171 correlates with the RNA expression levels.

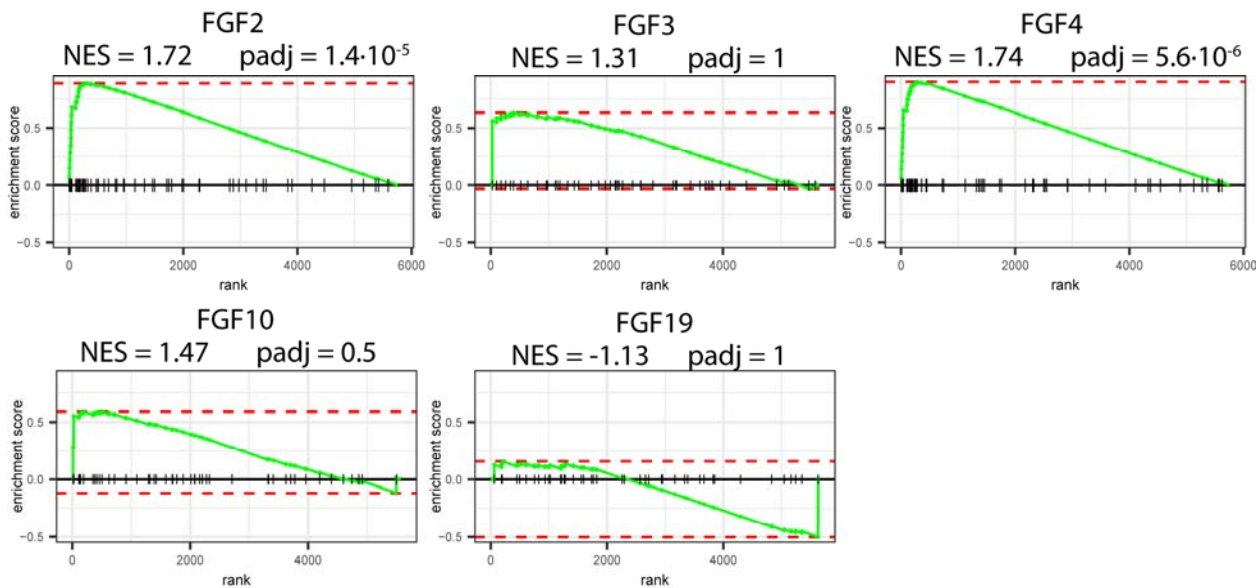
1172 **Supplementary Figure 3: FGF-induced MARK kinase regulation.**



1173

1174 **Supplementary Figure 3: FGF induced MARK kinase regulation.** Activity-
1175 determining phosphorylation in the activation loop of MARK1, MARK2, and MARK3 was
1176 quantified in MCF-7 treated with different FGF ligands. Line plots show these quantified
1177 phosphorylated sites (biological triplicates). Values are represented in log₂ and the 1.5
1178 fold-change is represented using the dashed line.

1179 **Supplementary Figure 4: proteome derived EMT signature.**

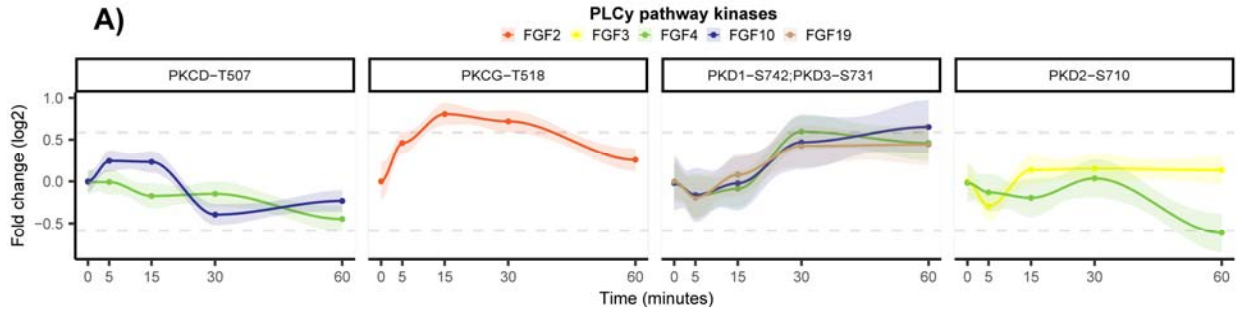


1180

1181 **Supplementary figure 4: proteome derived EMT signature.** MCF-7 cells treated were
1182 treated for 24 hours with the FGF ligands and their proteomes quantified. Subsequently,
1183 GSEA analysis on these proteomes (biological triplicates) was performed using the

1184 MsigDB signature “HALLMARK_EPITHELIAL_MESENCHYMAL_TRANSITION”. The
1185 normalized enrichment score (NES) along with the adjusted p-value is reported.

1186 **Supplementary Figure 5: Regulation of kinases implicated in PLC γ signaling.**

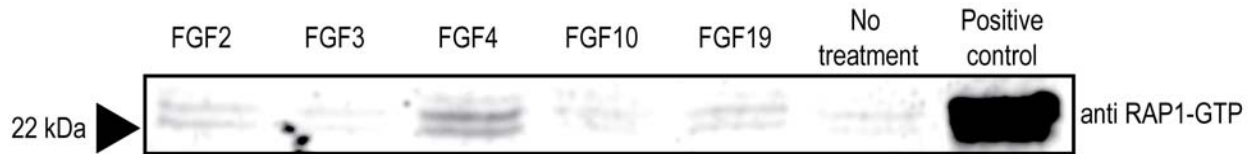


1187

1188 **Supplementary Figure 5: Regulation of kinases implicated in PLC γ signaling A)**

1189 Kinome activity was quantified of MCF-7 cells treated with 50ng/mL of either FGF2,
1190 FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, or FGF19, together with 5 μ g/mL of heparin. Only the activity
1191 dynamics of significantly regulated kinases (biological triplicates, ANOVA p < 0.05) from
1192 the PLC γ pathway are plotted. Grey lines represent a 1.5 fold-change, and 90% confidence
1193 intervals are presented per quantified phosphorylated peptide.

1194 **Supplementary Figure 6: RAP1 pulldown on FGF-stimulated cells.**



1195

1196 **Supplementary Figure 6: RAP1 pulldown on FGF-stimulated cells.** MCF-7 cells were
1197 stimulated with either FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF10, and FGF19. Also, a no-stimulation
1198 control and a positive control were included. The negative control constituted
1199 unstimulated MCF-7 cells. The positive control constituted MCF-7 cell lysate with
1200 activated RAP1 by incubating the lysate with GTP γ S, which activates all RAP1 in the
1201 lysate. The assay consisted of a pulldown of GTP-bound (active) Rap1 of equal amounts of
1202 proteins, followed by a western blot using an α -RAP1-GTP antibody.